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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Project: **IP-115**

OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

PROJECT INITIATION MEMORANDUM

Date: **7/20/50**

TO: **D/NE**

From: Publications Division, Projects Planning

Subject: **Labor Situation in Italian Somaliland**

Statement of Project: **25X1A**

Origin: **Internal** [REDACTED]

Problem: **To furnish an appraisal of organized labor situation in Italian Somaliland**

Scope: **To include estimate of Communist activities in field and possibilities of Communist penetration**

Graphics (if any):

Form: **Memorandum**

Draft due in D/Pub: **As soon as convenient**

Dissemination deadline  
(if any)

Internal Coordination:

Departmental Responsibilities:

Classification to be no higher than: **SECRET**



Recommended Dissemination: **Requester only**

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25 July 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR : ORE D/PUB 25X1A  
ATTENTION :   
SUBJECT : Labor Situation in Italian Somaliland  
REFERENCE :  25X1A

1. It is requested that this office be given an appraisal of the organized labor situation in Italian Somaliland, with an estimate of Communist activities in the field and possibilities of Communist penetration.

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2. Any questions pertaining to this request, may be referred to  of this office on Extension 3215.

25X1A

  
Chief, Intelligence Support**SECRET**

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## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Officer designations should be used in the "To" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "To" column. Each officer should initial (Check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Record and Routing Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

I/IS

NO.

28337

DATE

25 July 1950

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D		
1. ORE, D/Pub X Att. [REDACTED]					25X1A cc to D/NE [REDACTED] 7/28/50
2. 25X1A					
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ORE D/Pub

28 July 1950

ORE D/NE/A

Labor Situation in Italian Somaliland

25X1A

 (IP-145)

The economy of Italian Somaliland is primarily agricultural and pastoral. There are as a consequence no labor organizations as such in the territory. There are, however, two organizations, the Somali Youth League and the Conferenza della Somalia, whose activities are mainly political but which recently became involved to some extent in the local labor picture in Mogadiscio. The SYL was founded in 1943 under the British Administration and flourished under a measure of British support. The Conferenza was formed by the amalgamation of a number of smaller ~~supporters~~ ~~The Conferenza was formed~~ clubs, has strong Italian support, and is sympathetic to Italy and the Italian Administration. The indirect projection of these organizations into the labor situation came as a result of the recent placing of the country under Italian trusteeship. The new Administration has not unnaturally replaced some SYL job-holders in the previous government with more sympathetic members of the Conferenze. This has caused some Syl grumbling, but no serious reaction is anticipated.

Communist influence in these two organizations is negligible. There have been reports from time to time that SYL leaders were Communistically inclined, but no confirmation has been obtained and these reports are believed to be of doubtful reliability. Communism in Italian Somaliland has made no headway among Somalis generally; the few Communists in the territory are Italians who exert little influence.

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